

17 May 1967

Memo to:

Office of Legislative Counsel

1. During the briefing of Congressman Reid on 10 May I quoted a figure which I recalled roughly as 25 tons per month for incoming enemy projectiles in South Vietnam in March and April, but could not be specific, and promised to send him the figures, attached.

2. This material comes from the DIA Intelligence Summary (5 May 1967) and is classified SECRET/NO FOREIGN DISSEM. Under third agency rules, we can not authorize Congressman Reid to make further use of this information, but I feel that the Pentagon would probably be glad to do so.

3. Congressman Reid also asked for the in-country strength of the North Vietnamese Army, and the annual call-up manpower base.

STATINTL


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Enemy Use of Mortars and Rockets
in South Vietnam

1. A study by MACV of enemy mortar, artillery, and rocket "incidents" in the first four months of 1967 shows the following increase:

January	44
February	51
March	141 (1 artillery)
April	100 (2 artillery)

The study notes that the reporting is probably "not all-inclusive, and in particular does not include all enemy use of mortars as a result of friendly-initiated actions."

2. Targets for these incidents were U.S., South Vietnamese, and allied troops, airfields, province capitals, district towns, villages, and hamlets.

3. The enemy used 120-mm heavy mortars more than a year ago, but has introduced Soviet 122-mm and 140-mm and Chinese 102-mm rockets during the first quarter of 1967, also firing 100-mm, 105-mm, 122-mm and 152-mm artillery into South Vietnam from positions in or north of the "Demilitarized" Zone.

4. The projectile for the 140-mm rocket weighs 87 pounds, and can be broken down into three components for carriage by coolie transport.

5. The study gives the following figures, subject to the same footnote as appended to paragraph 1 above:

	<u>Estimated Rounds</u> <u>Expended</u>	<u>Estimated</u> <u>Weight(tons)</u>
Monthly Average, 1966	1,155	1.56 (Jul-Dec. only)
Total, 1966	13,855	9.4 (Jul-Dec. only)
January, 1967	1,716	3.9
February, 1967	1,938	8.5
March, 1967	6,909	26.8
April, 1967	5,700	22.6

6. The Lunar New Year ("Tet") truce was 8-12 February.

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North Vietnamese Army Strength

1. In-country strength of the regular North Vietnamese Army is carried at 358,600 men.

2. This includes 10 infantry divisions, 4 infantry brigades, and 8 independent infantry regiments, but it is not possible to translate this into a battalion count (similar to the count of 91 NVA battalions in South Vietnam) because the regular or separate regiments do not all have the standard three battalions at present.

3. In addition to the infantry formations, there is one artillery division, 1 anti-aircraft (AAA) division and 80 separate AAA regiments, one ~~xxxxxx~~ armored regiment, and the estimated 25 to 30 SA-2 battalions.

4. There are another 16,500 men in the armed public security forces (7 regiments and five independent battalions), and an estimated 3,000,000 reserves.

5. About 110,000 North Vietnamese males reach the ostensible call-up age of 18 each year; younger males have been noted among the killed and captured.

SUPPLEMENT

ENEMY'S EMPLOYMENT OF **MORTARS & ROCKETS IN SOUTH VIETNAM**

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